June 29, 1972

Dear Harold,

Obviously, my apologies for being so late with a reply to you.

Many problems have been encountered in getting started on this case since I last spoke with you. To begin with, the students who were willing to help on the case last semester now either have summer jobs and can no longer afford the time that the case demands or have left St. Louis for the summer contrary to their earlier plans. I cannot handle the whole thing myself. Therefore, without further help from other students, I am at a standstill. I am fairly sure that a group can be organized in the early fall when the first semester starts, but before then, things are very doubtful. It may be a good strategy for us to get things on the case together enough so that when the students come back in the fall we can start right in on the investigation.

The next problem is that I cannot make heads or tails from either your cover letter to me or the letters of John to you. John's letters are very interesting, but I seem to be missing the perspective in which they are to be read, for they seem meaningless. Also, who is the attorney on the case, perhaps I should see him at least to find out what is happening with any appeals that may be in progress. Clearly there are facts to be checked out, but when we receive them out of context, it is difficult to figure their rele vancy to the case.

The main problem I guess is that I simply cannot tell what you want done with the letters that John has sent. Follow-ups, I assume, but on what?

If I were to give these letters to a group of students and tell them that this is the case that we are going to help on, they would think I was totally absurd.

To put it quite simply, the whole is a quandry for me. In the present state of the letters and directions that you have sent with them, I doubt that I could get any students to work on the investigation.

Who is my "downstate man"? I do not know.

If I am going to ask other students to work on this investigation, what you want done must be made clearer. John's letters make interesting reading, but little more than just that, interesting reading.

Help if you can see the problem. An experienced researcher like yourself, I and law students that I have met are not. Much more guidance is needed if we are to do anything.

In the meantime, I have been looking for a student who has free time during this summer to begin to pick the case up. Hopefully I will find someone.

take care,

Dana